

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

**April 25, 2016**

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates:

**April 29** - Rockin' Lock In!

**Now - April 29** - CAN DO community challenge food drive

**May 2** - IAAT - 5th grade math classes

**May 3** - IAAT - Mrs. Circo's math class

**May 5** - Field Trip to Robert Crown Center for Health

**May 13** - Transition Picnic (Brooks feeder schools)

**May 23** - 5M presents *Hamlet*

**May 24** - 5L presents *Twelfth Night*

**May 26** - 5C presents *Macbeth*

**May 27** - 5F presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

**May 30** - Memorial Day - no school

**June 3** - Book Swap

**June 6** - Aquatic field trip

**June 7** - Fifth Grade Completion Ceremony

**June 8** - Olympic Day/Last day of school

**5th GRADE PARCC TESTING DATES:** April 11, April 12, April 15, April 18, April 25, April 26, April 28

## News:

### Headphones for PARCC

All students need headphones for our upcoming PARCC assessments. Please check in with your student to confirm that they have headphones at school. If your student is unable to obtain headphones, please let your teacher know and we will be happy to help locate a pair.

### CAN DO Community Challenge (Food Drive)

Please donate!! All local schools are invited to participate in the CAN DO Community Challenge to heighten awareness about hunger and the need to get involved with the Food Pantry at a time when donations are traditionally at their lowest. The school that brings in the most donations will be awarded the CAN DO Community Challenge trophy. Holmes will be accepting donations until April 29th. Monetary donations can be made [here](#).

## **Parent Workshop: Navigating Friendships - Helping Your Child Develop Social Competence & Confidence**

*Wednesday, April 20th, 6:30-8:30pm, Holmes Auditorium*

The PTO is proud to partner with Parenthesis and Smartlove Family Services to host a parent workshop "Navigating Friendships: Helping Your Child Develop Social Competence & Confidence." Join us on Wednesday, April 20 from 6:30-8:30pm in the Holmes School Auditorium. Child care will be provided and we request that you register ahead of time so that we may plan accordingly.

For more information about this workshop, you can access the flyer [here](#).

### **Typing Practice**

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

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**Click here for our 2nd trimester newsletter- [SPECIALS DELIVERY](#)**

### **Art**

We'll be finishing up printmaking, beginning for some/continuing for others stop-motion and beginning weaving in the next few weeks.

~Ms. Jones ([kjones@op97.org](mailto:kjones@op97.org))

### **Music**

We will be continuing the song "Street Song" which we started playing on the Orff (xylophone instruments) last trimester. You should have received a email and letter with the 3rd trimester assessments this week. If you did not receive this email please contact me at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org).

**Share Day** will be this week on Thursday and Friday- April 28th and April 29th.

**Students (if they choose) can bring in something to share/perform. Examples are:**

- Singing a song for the class
- Playing an instrument from home for the class
- Playing a piece on the classroom piano (students can bring in music if needed)
- Dancing for the class (students can bring in a CD or send me a link if needed-**a guardian/parent needs to write a note or email saying the song is appropriate**)
- Playing (on a CD or by giving a link) a piece of music for the class-**a guardian/parent needs to write a note/ send an email saying the song is appropriate**

Participation is completely voluntary. Students can drop off instruments/materials in the **auditorium** on the morning of their share if needed. Share day is not only an opportunity for students to share their talents, but also for us as class to work on several listening goals as well as practice proper audience behavior.

### **Chorus**

Congratulations a wonderful Festival and Wolves Game performance! Click the link below if you are interested in listening to the recordings of the performance.

[Festival Recordings Link](#)

### **Spanish**

The fifth graders have started a new story about a chicken named Carlos. A problematic unicorn creates a challenge for Carlos. Stay tuned to see what happens! We will be also doing informal assessments with Kahoot as we elaborate the story.

### **Library, Reading Olympics**

The Reading Olympics **Extreme Round** will be held at the OPPL Thursday, April 21. The Holmes competition will be the previous week. All 18 books will be on the competition question list!

## **Library**

Just before spring break, we started a new research project. Students will be researching a country of their choice, writing a narrative from the point of view of a student in that country, and making a movie that highlights a "day in the life..." in that country. We will be using the CultureGrams database through the OPPL [Homework Help](#) page. While the majority of the project will be done in the library, students may wish to access the databases at home or interview a parent, family member, or friend about the country they are researching. To access the database, students will need an OPPL card and PIN. Don't forget to email me with any questions! [mmaneck@op97.org](mailto:mmaneck@op97.org)

## **Physical Education**

April 15th is our Annual Student vs, Staff Basketball Game. April also brings about our Dance Unit. The kids will be moving to different tunes while they boogie down to our p.e. School district Xbox 360 system. The dance unit will go on for the entire month of April.

## **Reading/Literature**

This week, we will be continuing with our third trimester ELA Unit, titled "Change and Identity." Throughout this unit, students will be focusing on the following question, especially in relation to their transition to middle school: *What factors shape who you are as an individual and your role within society?* We will finish reading our anchor text, *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt. Students will be focusing on figurative language and character development while reading. At the end of the week, students will be watching the *Tuck Everlasting* film, to compare the video version to the book version.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night!

## **Writing**

Our writing time will be spent continuing to identify evidence and reasons to support persuasive claims. Students will be choosing a topic for their persuasive essay.

## **Math**

This week, students will be working on decimal multiplication. We will be applying whole number multiplication strategies (partial products, area model, standard algorithm) to decimal multiplication. There will be a short quiz on Friday. During the week of May 2, all 5th graders will take the IAAT (Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test). Brooks Middle School will use the results of the IAAT as one of the factors to determine 6th grade math placement. The IAAT is 60 minutes in length and will be administered during math class. Please contact your child's math teacher if you have questions.

## **Science**

In science this week, we will be continuing our life sciences unit about biomes and ecosystems. The students will be creating posters of their assigned biome and designing a house that would suit that particular environment. They will also be creating their own food chains and understanding that the sun is the energy source for the food chain.

## **Social Studies**

In Social Studies this week we will begin a mini-unit called Road the the Revolution. Through the examination of different sources and perspectives, students will learn about the events that led to the American Revolution. This week we will focus on The French and Indian War and the Stamp Act.

## **Word Study**

We will not be doing word study this week due to our three PARCC tests. We will resume next week.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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